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Gudrun E. Hockett, Patent Agent

Applicant: Hermann Kern et al.  
Serial No: 10/708,741  
Filed: 3/23/2004  
Title: Sealing Ring  
Examiner: Alison K. Pickard  
Art Unit: 3673

**Commissioner for Patents**  
**Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

**AMENDMENT**

In response to the office action dated 11/1/2005, please amend the instant application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

The claims are amended as shown in the attached marked-up complete list of claims.